

BYE LAWS

Of the Congregation

KAHAL KADOSH SHEARITH ISRAEL,

OF MONTREAL.

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Of Montreal.

CHAP. I.

OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

1st.—WHEREAS by the third section of the Act (9 and 10 GEO. IV. chap. 75.) for extending certain privileges to persons professing the Jewish religion, the enregistered Jews are empowered to elect, from among their number, five persons as trustees, which trustees shall not remain in office longer than five years.

2nd.—The same trustees, or any of them, may be re-elected.

3rd.—The trustees shall elect from among their number a President or *Parnas*, a Treasurer and Secretary.

4th.—There shall always be provided by the trustees a *Hazan*, *Shochet*, and *Shamas*, to perform the services required of them in their several departments.

CHAP. II.

OF THE PRAYERS.

1st.—The fixed Prayers shall forever be read in the *Hebrew Language*, according to the custom of the *Spanish and Portuguese Jews*, and no other.

2nd.—But the *Parnas* may, on a public thanksgiving or any other occasion, direct the *Hazan*, or any other suitable person, to deliver an address or sermon in English.

CHAP. III.
OF THE PARNAS.

1st.—The *Parnas* shall have a superintending power over the *Hazan*, *Shochet* and *Shamas*, and see that they faithfully perform the duties of their respective offices; and should either of them appear deficient in the discharge of their duties, he shall report the same to the board of trustees, who shall immediately take cognizance thereof.

2nd.—The *Parnas* shall have the power at his discretion to cause to be given to any person professing Judaism, whom he may deem an object of charity, any sum not exceeding Four Dollars.

3rd.—All the *Mitzvas* to be the gift of the *Parnas*.

CHAP. IV.
OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

1st.—All meetings of the Board of Trustees to be called by the Secretary, by direction of the *Parnas*, or any two members of the Board.

2nd.—It shall be the duty of the Board to make and renew all contracts within its cognizance, in such a manner as may be deemed proper and conducive to the interest of the Congregation.

3rd.—The Trustees shall also appoint a suitable person to keep a book for marking all offerings made in the Synagogue.

4th.—An annual meeting of the enregistered Jews shall be called by the Secretary on the third Sunday in August of each year, for the purpose of laying before them a full and correct statement of the accounts of the Trustees, and also to receive the report of all the resolutions of their Board, intended to have the effect of Laws.

5th.—The Board shall meet quarterly to examine such business as may be laid before it.

CHAP. V.
TO PROMOTE SOLEMNITY AND ORDER.

1st.—Every member of this congregation shall, previous to the singing any psalm or prayer, remain silent until the *Hazan* signify

the tone or key in which the same is to be sung, when those who are so inclined may then join therein, with an equal voice, but neither higher nor louder than the *Hazan*.

2nd.—No children of either sex, under the age of three years, shall be admitted into the Synagogue under any pretence whatever.

3rd.—All umbrellas and canes, except those carried by lame persons, shall be left at the door.

4th.—All garments taken off shall be deposited in the room outside for that purpose, unless the owners thereof put them in their own seats.

5th.—Any person or persons leaving the Synagogue, shall retire in a quiet and orderly manner, and avoid going out together or in bodies, more particularly during the reading of the *Tora* and *Haphtora*.

6th.—Any person or persons infringing the above Laws shall be admonished accordingly.

CHAP. VI.

OF SEATS.

1st.—No person residing in the City of Montreal shall be considered a member of this Congregation unless he possesses a Seat in the Synagogue, neither shall he be entitled to any of the rights, benefits, or immunities thereof.

2nd.—The Seats will be leased, by auction, for the term of three years, reckoning from the 1st September.

3rd.—Any person wishing to obtain a Seat at other times, must apply, in writing, to the trustees, and if granted, they shall charge therefore such a sum as may be deemed equitable.

4th.—Persons wishing to obtain Seats gratis, must apply to the trustees, who will decide on the expediency thereof.

5th.—The Seats on the main floor will not be put up at less than six dollars, nor over twelve.

6th.—The Seats in the gallery will not be put up at less than five dollars nor over ten.

7th.—Half the annual amount of the purchase of the Seats res-

pectively, must be paid within eight days from the day of purchase, and the other half within six months from said time, and so on semi-annually in advance, for and during the term of the three years.

8th.—In default of punctual payment, the seat or seats to revert to the trustees, which will be released, and due notice thereof given in the Synagogue.

9th.—No person shall be allowed to take possession of his Seat unless it has been paid for.

CHAP. VII.

OF OFFERINGS.

1st.—Persons called up are not obliged to make any offerings; but if they make only one, it must be for *Parnas* and Congregation, in any sum not under a quarter of a dollar.

2nd.—Any person called up who wishes to make an *Heshchabah* shall not offer less than one dollar.

3rd.—It shall be the duty of the person keeping the account of the Offerings made, to report to trustees at their quarterly meeting all persons who may be delinquent in the payment of the amount of the Offerings made by them the preceding quarter.

4th.—The *Parnas* shall not call up nor receive any Offerings from any member or other person, who may, at that time, be indebted any sum to this Congregation for the space of three months.

5th.—In the case of Offerings made by strangers, the amount shall be collected within eight and forty hours after such offering may be made.

CHAP. VIII.

OF BAKING PASSOVER BREAD.

1st.—It shall be the duty of the *Parnas* to procure a suitable person to superintend the Baking of the Passover Bread, who shall call upon the different families requiring the same, to ascertain the quantity they wish.

2nd.—The Superintendent shall be entitled to the following

remuneration from each family or person taking the Bread, viz.—

Under 50lbs. he shall receive 1s. 3d.

„ 80lbs. „ 2s. 6d.

„ 110lbs. „ 5s.

And 1s. 3d. extra for every 20lbs. over 110lbs.

3rd.—Persons unable to pay for their *Motzas*, shall receive the following quantity, on application to the *Parnas* :—

If one person, he shall receive 8lbs.

If a family, 3lbs. will be allowed for children, and 6lbs. for Adults.

CHAP. IX.

OF THE FEES.

The *Hazan* shall be entitled to the following fees :—

1st.—For performing the Marriage Ceremony, not less than three dollars.

2nd.—For naming a Child or duties as *Moel*, not less than five dollars.

3rd.—For performing the Burial Service, with attendance at the House of Mourning during the seven days, not less than five dollars.

The *Shamas* shall receive the following fees :—

1st.—For attendance at a Marriage Ceremony, not less than one dollar.

2nd.—For attendance at a *Berith*, not less than one dollar and a half.

3rd.—For attendance and duties at a Funeral, not less than two dollars.

CHAP. X.

OF THE REGISTER FOR NAMES OF DEAD.

1st.—All applications to have the name or names of any person or persons deceased, previous to the present time, recorded in a book for that purpose, for the privilege of an *Heshchabah*, on the eve of *Yom-Kippur*, shall be made to the trustees, who shall charge therefore a sum, not less than five dollars.

2nd.—For the recording names of those who may die after this date, trustees shall charge a sum not less than ten dollars.

CHAP. XI.

OF THE BURIAL GROUND.

In order that no kind of sacrilege may be committed on the remains of those who have already been interred, it is to be understood,

1st.—That ninety feet of the New Ground, immediately adjoining the Old Burying Ground, remain in the possession of the heirs of the estate of the late David David, Esq.

2nd.—That the Ground given to the Congregation by the Executors of the estate of the late David David, Esq. shall be under the sole management of the trustees for the time being.

3rd.—The trustees shall keep the ground laid out in rows and properly staked into graves and numbered, which numbers shall be registered in a book to be kept for that purpose by the Secretary; with also the names of the persons as they are buried in each grave.

4th.—Agreeably to the custom of our Religion, all persons dying shall be buried next each other in these rows.

5th.—The sum of five dollars shall be charged for the Grave of a child under thirteen years of age, exclusive of the digging, &c. and the sum of ten dollars for the Grave of an adult.

6th.—In the event of a family wishing a row or part thereof for themselves exclusively, application is to be made to the trustees for that purpose, and if granted, they shall charge therefore such a sum as they may think fit.

7th.—In the case of death of persons professing our holy faith, not coming under the above rules, trustees shall demand for burial, in our *Beth Haim*, a sum not less than £5, nor over £25, exclusive of funeral expenses.

8th.—In the case of death of poor persons professing Judaism, they shall be buried at the expense of the Congregation.

B. HART, PRESIDENT.

A. H. DAVID, M.D. SECY.

MONTREAL, JULY 3, 1838.